

Woodward, Katherine

From: Allen, Brian <AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us>
Sent: Thursday, May 11, 2017 3:21 PM
To: Woodward, Katherine
Subject: Report of Doherty High Schools air sampling results for PCBs
Attachments: Doherty HS PCB Air Testing Report.pdf

Kate,

The reason for this letter is communicate the results of the Doherty Memorial High School air testing to you.

Our consultant, O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates, Inc. (OTO) conducted the sampling at Doherty on April 24, 2017. I have attached a copy of OTO's report to this email. In summary, OTO reported that samples were collected and analyzed in accordance with EPA Method TO-10A. Samples were picked up at OTO's Springfield office and transported under chain of custody to the Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc. of Westborough and Hopkinton, MA. We understand that OTO and Alpha employed appropriate quality assurance measures in accordance with the method's recommendations. Samples were analyzed for PCBs as homologues, which we understand to be the method preferred by your office.

As you can see from the results, all of the samples contained well less than EPA's recommended levels for PCBs in school air. Needless to say, we were pleased with the results and took it as an indication that our Best Management Practices Plan was being successfully implemented.

If you have any questions please contact me. Would you please confirm receipt of this information.

Brian E. Allen | Chief Financial and Operations Officer | Worcester Public Schools
John Durkin Administration Building | 20 Irving Street | Worcester, MA 01609 | Office 508-799-3401

From: Woodward, Katherine [mailto:Woodward.Katherine@epa.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:03 AM
To: Allen, Brian <AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us>
Subject: RE: Report of Burncoat High Schools air sampling results for PCBs

Brian,

Thank you for the information. I will look for the Doherty HS results in May

Kate

From: Allen, Brian [mailto:AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Woodward, Katherine <Woodward.Katherine@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Report of Burncoat High Schools air sampling results for PCBs

Dear Kate:

The purpose of this email is to provide you an update of activity that has occurred in the Worcester Public Schools since our last communication and to provide you with results of air sampling that was conducted by the district's environmental consultant at Burncoat High School earlier this month.

The district continues to implement best management practices within the district, with particular emphasis at Doherty and Burncoat High Schools. As you know, throughout the district, 100% of all PCB-containing light ballasts were removed in 2012. We have recently completed extensive HVAC system improvements at both high schools and we have implemented frequent wet or damp cloth and HEPA cleaning practices at these and other schools. All district custodial and maintenance personnel recently were trained on proper cleaning methods.

Since our initial meeting with the EPA 2011, we continue to successfully partner with the Massachusetts School Building Authority and have completed window replacement projects at the following schools to date: Chandler Magnet, Clark Street, Columbus Park, Jacob Hiatt, Flagg Street, May Street, McGrath Elementary, New Citizens Center, Tatnuck Magnet, Union Hill, West Tatnuck, Worcester Arts Magnet. Belmont Street, Chandler Elementary, and Wawecus Road will have their windows replaced this summer. Also, during this same time period, Nelson Place School is being fully replaced and is scheduled to open for the 2017-18 school year. South High School is in the MSBA feasibility study phase and this January, Doherty High has been invited into the MSBA program and is currently in the initial phase. We have submitted Elm Park School, Rice Square and Thorndyke Road to MSBA for window replacement consideration as part of the 2017 Statement of Interest period. We have also submitted Burncoat High School as the district's priority project for replacement or major renovation. We have been very successful with these MSBA projects and look forward to on-going projects with them.

In my last email correspondence to you on October 26, 2016, I indicated that in the event that we collect samples for the analysis of PCBs we will forward the results to you. As you may have heard, the Worcester School Committee made a commitment for the District to conduct indoor air testing for PCBs at our Burncoat and Doherty High Schools. Our consultant, O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates, Inc. (OTO) conducted the sampling at Burncoat on April 3, 2017 and at Doherty on April 24, 2017. The reason for this letter is communicate the results of the Burncoat High School air testing to you.

I have attached a copy of OTO's report to this email. In summary, OTO reported that samples were collected and analyzed in accordance with EPA Method TO-10A. Samples were picked up at OTO's Springfield office and transported under chain of custody to the Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc. of Westborough and Hopkinton, MA. We understand that OTO and Alpha employed appropriate quality assurance measures in accordance with the method's recommendations. Samples were analyzed for PCBs as homologues, which we understand to be the method preferred by your office.

As you can see from the results, all of the samples contained well less than EPA's recommended levels for PCBs in school air. Needless to say, we were pleased with the results and took it as an indication that our Best Management Practices Plan was being successfully implemented. Since the laboratory has indicated we should anticipate a 10- business day turnaround time, we anticipate receiving the results for Doherty High School sometime after May 9th, we will provide those results to you shortly after we receive them.

If you have any questions please contact me. Would you please confirm receipt of this information.

Brian E. Allen | Chief Financial and Operations Officer | Worcester Public Schools
John Durkin Administration Building | 20 Irving Street | Worcester, MA 01609 | Office 508-799-3401

Woodward, Katherine

From: Allen, Brian <AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us>
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Woodward, Katherine
Subject: FW: Report of Burncoat High Schools air sampling results for PCBs
Attachments: Burncoat HS PCB Air Sampling Report.pdf

Dear Kate:

The purpose of this email is to provide you an update of activity that has occurred in the Worcester Public Schools since our last communication and to provide you with results of air sampling that was conducted by the district's environmental consultant at Burncoat High School earlier this month.

The district continues to implement best management practices within the district, with particular emphasis at Doherty and Burncoat High Schools. As you know, throughout the district, 100% of all PCB-containing light ballasts were removed in 2012. We have recently completed extensive HVAC system improvements at both high schools and we have implemented frequent wet or damp cloth and HEPA cleaning practices at these and other schools. All district custodial and maintenance personnel recently were trained on proper cleaning methods.

Since our initial meeting with the EPA 2011, we continue to successfully partner with the Massachusetts School Building Authority and have completed window replacement projects at the following schools to date: Chandler Magnet, Clark Street, Columbus Park, Jacob Hiatt, Flagg Street, May Street, McGrath Elementary, New Citizens Center, Tatnuck Magnet, Union Hill, West Tatnuck, Worcester Arts Magnet. Belmont Street, Chandler Elementary, and Wawecus Road will have their windows replaced this summer. Also, during this same time period, Nelson Place School is being fully replaced and is scheduled to open for the 2017-18 school year. South High School is in the MSBA feasibility study phase and this January, Doherty High has been invited into the MSBA program and is currently in the initial phase. We have submitted Elm Park School, Rice Square and Thorndyke Road to MSBA for window replacement consideration as part of the 2017 Statement of Interest period. We have also submitted Burncoat High School as the district's priority project for replacement or major renovation. We have been very successful with these MSBA projects and look forward to on-going projects with them.

In my last email correspondence to you on October 26, 2016, I indicated that in the event that we collect samples for the analysis of PCBs we will forward the results to you. As you may have heard, the Worcester School Committee made a commitment for the District to conduct indoor air testing for PCBs at our Burncoat and Doherty High Schools. Our consultant, O'Reilly, Talbot & Okun Associates, Inc. (OTO) conducted the sampling at Burncoat on April 3, 2017 and at Doherty on April 24, 2017. The reason for this letter is communicate the results of the Burncoat High School air testing to you.

I have attached a copy of OTO's report to this email. In summary, OTO reported that samples were collected and analyzed in accordance with EPA Method TO-10A. Samples were picked up at OTO's Springfield office and transported under chain of custody to the Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc. of Westborough and Hopkinton, MA. We understand that OTO and Alpha employed appropriate quality assurance measures in accordance with the method's recommendations. Samples were analyzed for PCBs as homologues, which we understand to be the method preferred by your office.

As you can see from the results, all of the samples contained well less than EPA's recommended levels for PCBs in school air. Needless to say, we were pleased with the results and took it as an indication that our Best Management Practices Plan was being successfully implemented. Since the laboratory has indicated we should anticipate a 10- business day

turnaround time, we anticipate receiving the results for Doherty High School sometime after May 9th, we will provide those results to you shortly after we receive them.

If you have any questions please contact me. Would you please confirm receipt of this information.

Brian E. Allen | Chief Financial and Operations Officer | Worcester Public Schools
John Durkin Administration Building | 20 Irving Street | Worcester, MA 01609 | Office 508-799-3401

Tisa, Kimberly

From: Tisa, Kimberly
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 3:14 PM
To: Leger, Philip
Cc: Tisa, Kimberly
Subject: RE: PCB's in schools

Mr. Leger:

Below is a link to some information you may find helpful.

<https://www.epa.gov/pcbs/polychlorinated-biphenyls-pcbs-building-materials#Information-Buildings>

I also refer you to Brian Allen (Chief Financial and Operations Officer, WPS) who I have worked with in the past on PCB issues in the Worcester schools. I have his telephone number as 508-799-3401.

Please feel free to call me should you have any questions.

Kimberly N. Tisa, PCB Coordinator
USEPA
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Boston, MA 02109-3912

617.918.1527 (phone)
617.918.0527 (fax)
Tisa.Kimberly@epa.gov

From: Leger, Philip [<mailto:LegerP@worcesterma.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 28, 2016 2:24 PM
To: Tisa, Kimberly <Tisa.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: PCB's in schools

Hi Tisa, The City of Worcester school committee is having an emergency meeting to discuss PCB's in their schools Friday. The City Manager is requesting information to help him understand the risk and responsibilities for the City. You are listed as regional contact. Can you recommend guidance documents for this issue? Thanking you in advance for your assistance.

Philip Leger R.S.
Chief of Environmental Health/Response
Office of Environmental Health
Worcester Division of Public Health/Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance

Email: legerp@worcesterma.gov
Cell: 774-314-5806



Woodward, Katherine

From: Woodward, Katherine
Sent: Friday, June 05, 2015 1:05 PM
To: 'Allen, Brian'
Subject: RE: WPS Update

Brian-

Could you please provide a copy of the completion reports for the window replacement projects that have been completed so far to complete our records?

Thanks

Kate

Katherine A Woodward, PE
US Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100
Mail Code: OSRR07-2
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Phone: (617)918-1353
Fax: (617)918-0353

From: Allen, Brian [mailto:AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us]
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2015 10:53 AM
To: Woodward, Katherine
Subject: RE: WPS Update

Kate,

It was good to hear from you; things have been busy here in Worcester so I apologize for being a little slow getting back to you. To improve the energy efficiency of our buildings we continue to pursue funding from MSBA to implement window improvement projects. As in the past, we require contractors to assume that existing window materials are contaminated and adopt appropriate health and safety as well as waste management plans.

Last year we completed window projects at the these schools: Tatnuck Magnet; Columbus Park; Worcester Art Magnet; and Chandler Magnet. I had described those pending projects to you in my March 3, 2014 update. Also in my March 3, 2014 update I told you we had submitted funding requests to MSBA for additional projects. As a result of success with those requests we hope to complete window replacements this year at the following schools: Clark Street; Union Hill; Goddard; and West Tatnuck.

We will continue to submit projects to the MSBA under the Accelerated Repair Program annually to address window replacement projects. This is a summary of the activities that WPS has engaged since we last had updated the EPA. We are always willing to provide additional information or meeting as needed.

Brian E. Allen | Chief Financial and Operations Officer | Worcester Public Schools
John Durkin Administration Building | 20 Irving Street | Worcester, MA 01609 | Office 508-799-3401

From: Woodward, Katherine [<mailto:Woodward.Katherine@epa.gov>]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 10:39 AM
To: Allen, Brian
Subject: RE: WPS Update

Thanks! I know it has been a while since the last time.

From: Allen, Brian [<mailto:AllenB@worc.k12.ma.us>]
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 10:23 AM
To: Woodward, Katherine
Subject: RE: WPS Update

Kate,

Just wanted to touch base to let you know that I received your email and we'll be developing an update for you. It will just take us a little bit so we can compile our actions since the last time we communicated.

Brian E. Allen | Chief Financial and Operations Officer | Worcester Public Schools
John Durkin Administration Building | 20 Irving Street | Worcester, MA 01609 | Office 508-799-3401

From: Woodward, Katherine [<mailto:Woodward.Katherine@epa.gov>]
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:00 AM
To: Allen, Brian
Subject: WPS Update

Brian,

Could you please provide an update on the work you have been doing on the schools? In your last update you talked about putting schools in for window replacement projects. We have not received any Notifications from you for these projects. Are we correct in assuming that these schools did not contain PCBs in the caulk?

Please provide a status update for the schools scheduled for renovation/window replacement and sampling data that documents the absence of PCB caulk in the schools where the window replacement project were completed. If these projects were completed as performance-based projects under § 761.61(b), please provide a copy of the completion reports for the projects.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Kate

Katherine A Woodward, PE
US Environmental Protection Agency
5 Post Office Square, Suite 100

Mail Code: OSRR07-2
Boston, MA 02109-3912
Phone: (617)918-1353
Fax: (617)918-0353